

James D. Weakley, Esq. Bar No. 082853  
Brandi L. Gustafson, Esq. Bar No. 267130  
**WEAKLEY & ARENDT**  
A Professional Corporation  
5200 N. Palm Avenue, Suite 211  
Fresno, California 93704  
Telephone: (559) 221-5256  
Facsimile: (559) 221-5262  
[Jim@walaw-fresno.com](mailto:Jim@walaw-fresno.com)  
[Brandi@walaw-fresno.com](mailto:Brandi@walaw-fresno.com)

Attorneys for Defendant, Rey Medeles

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
**FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA FRESNO DIVISION**

LUIS F. RODRIGUEZ,

Plaintiff,

vs.

FRESNO POLICE OFFICER REY  
MEDELES; FRESNO POLICE OFFICER  
GUSTAVO GUTIERREZ; UNKNOWN  
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS; THE  
CITY OF FRESNO,

Defendants.

CASE NO. 1:23-cv-01471-JLT-SKO

**STIPULATION AND ORDER TO EXTEND  
NON-EXPERT DISCOVERY AND STAY THE  
CIVIL ACTION DURING THE PENDING  
CRIMINAL ACTION**

(Doc. 56)

Complaint Filed: October 14, 2023

Trial: August 25, 2026

IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between Plaintiff Luis F. Rodriguez (“Plaintiff”) and Defendants Former Fresno Police Officer Rey Medeles (“Medeles”), Fresno Police Officer Gustavo Gutierrez (“Gutierrez”), and the City of Fresno (“Defendants”) (collectively “the Parties”), through their respective counsel of record, as follows:

**GOOD CAUSE STATEMENT**

1. The non-expert discovery deadline is currently set for December 15, 2025.
2. The Parties met and conferred as a result of the Ex Parte application filed by Plaintiff to extend the discovery cutoff (Doc. No. 53), in an effort to resolve the issues raised in the Ex Parte, as well as to address the recent arrest of Medeles.

1           3.       Medeles was arrested in early October 2025 on charges of grand theft and  
2 preparing false evidence in *People of the State of California v. Rey Ariel Medeles*, Fresno  
3 County Superior Court Case No. F25907039, which arises from accusations that Medeles stole  
4 money from the police evidence locker. A pre-preliminary hearing in the case is currently set  
5 for March 2, 2026.

6           4.       Medeles has a powerful incentive to invoke his Fifth Amendment right from  
7 compelled self-incrimination with regard to any deposition or trial testimony. Full testimony  
8 from Medeles would be important to each of the parties' respective police practices experts in  
9 forming their opinions. The police practices expert for Medeles would additionally require  
10 discussion with Medeles to properly form opinions.

11          5.       Many of the officers whose depositions Plaintiff noticed, including defendant  
12 Gutierrez, will also likely have to testify as part of the criminal trial.

13          6.       The Parties have conducted extensive written discovery so far in this action and  
14 the parties have all noticed and re-noticed depositions in an effort to accommodate availability  
15 of counsel and their clients. The previously noticed depositions were removed from calendar so  
16 the parties could pursue mediation on November 22, 2025, with the intention of coordinating  
17 schedules to reset the depositions if the mediation was unsuccessful.

18          7.       The mediation on November 22, 2025 was unsuccessful. On December 15,  
19 2025, Plaintiff's counsel—Kevin Little—represented that he had been in trial in Kern County  
20 from November 24, 2025 through December 12, 2025.

21          8.       As this matter is factually similar to and involves the same witnesses as Eastern  
22 District of California Case Nos. 1:24-cv-00472-KES-BAM (*Chi Thanh Ngo v. City of Fresno,*  
23 *et. al.*), and 1:24-cv-00471-KES-SKO (*Daniel Guzman Vela v. City of Fresno, et. al.*), the  
24 Parties have agreed to depose the above-identified only once each across all three of these  
25 matters.

26          9.       As such, the Parties jointly stipulate and respectfully request that this Court  
27 modify the existing Scheduling Order as specified below, or to a date as soon thereafter as is  
28 convenient for the Court.

1 ///

2 10. This is the fourth request by the Parties for an Order to modify the existing  
3 Scheduling Order.

4 **STIPULATION**

5 NOW, THEREFORE, in light of the foregoing Good Cause, the Parties hereby stipulate  
6 and respectfully request a modification of the Court's Order Continuing Discovery Cutoff Dates  
7 (Doc. No. 47) and the case schedule (Doc. No. 44), as follows:

8 1. The Non-Expert Discovery Deadline currently set for December 15, 2025, is  
9 continued by six months to June 15, 2026, except as to Defendants Rey Medeles and Gustavo  
10 Gutierrez for whom the Non-Expert Discovery Deadline is stayed pending the conclusion of the  
11 criminal matter *People of the State of California v. Rey Ariel Medeles*, Fresno County Superior  
12 Court Case No. F25907039.

13 2. The remaining dates set forth in the Order Continuing Discovery Cutoff Dates  
14 (Doc. No. 47) and the case schedule (Doc. No. 44), including expert disclosures, are vacated  
15 and will be stayed pending the conclusion of the criminal matter *People of the State of*  
16 *California v. Rey Ariel Medeles*, Fresno County Superior Court Case No. F25907039.

17 3. A Status Conference be scheduled on June 17, 2026, or as soon thereafter as the  
18 Court and parties are available, to evaluate the appropriateness of setting a Scheduling  
19 Conference depending on the status of the underlying criminal case.

20 4. A Joint Status Conference Statement will be electronically filed by the parties 7  
21 days prior to the Status Conference date and will be emailed in Word format to  
22 [skoorders@caed.uscourts.gov](mailto:skoorders@caed.uscourts.gov).

23  
24 Dated: December 19, 2025

25 WEAKLEY & ARENDT  
26 A Professional Corporation

27 By: /s/ Brande L. Gustafson  
28 James D. Weakley  
Brande L. Gustafson  
Attorneys for Defendant Rey Medeles

1  
2 Dated: December 19, 2025

3 MANNING & KASS,  
4 ELLROD, RAMIREZ, TRESTER LLP

5 By: /s/ Maya R. Sorensen  
6 Mildred K. O'Linn  
7 Maya R. Sorensen  
8 Attorneys for Defendants Fresno Police  
Officer Gustavo Gutierrez and City of  
Fresno

9 Dated: December 19, 2025

10 LAW OFFICE OF KEVIN G. LITTLE

11 By: /s/ Kevin G. Little  
12 Kevin G. Little  
13 Attorneys for Plaintiff Luis F. Rodriguez

14 **ORDER**

15 THE PARTIES HAVING SO STIPULATED (Doc. 56), and good cause appearing (Fed.  
16 R. Civ. P. 16(b)(4), the Court hereby orders that the case schedule be MODIFIED as follows:

17 1. The Non-Expert Discovery Deadline currently set for December 15, 2025, is  
18 continued by six months to June 15, 2026, except as to Defendants Rey Medeles and Gustavo  
19 Gutierrez for whom the Non-Expert Discovery Deadline is STAYED pending the conclusion of  
20 the criminal matter *People of the State of California v. Rey Ariel Medeles*, Fresno County  
Superior Court Case No. F25907039.

21 2. The remaining dates in the case schedule (Docs. 44 & 47), including expert  
22 disclosures, and the Settlement Conference (*see* Doc. 52) are VACATED and are STAYED  
23 pending the conclusion of the criminal matter *People of the State of California v. Rey Ariel*  
24 *Medeles*, Fresno County Superior Court Case No. F25907039.

25 3. Defense counsel SHALL inform the Court and all parties of the  
26 termination/completion of the criminal proceedings within ten (10) days thereof.

27 //  
28

1           4.       After receiving notice of the termination/completion of the criminal proceedings,  
2 the Court SHALL re-set the Mandatory Scheduling Conference to establish the remaining  
3 hearing dates and deadlines in this action.

4  
5 IT IS SO ORDERED.

6 Dated: **December 22, 2025**

*/s/ Sheila K. Oberto*  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE